

15. Fall from Roof

A **43-year-old** HVAC technician died after sustaining injuries when he fell approximately 22 feet from the roof of a building. The victim and a co-worker on the ground were attempting to lift to the roof a 200-pound compressor to replace the damaged compressor on the roof. The victim placed a pulley with a rope tied to a structural I-beam on the roof and then had the co-worker on the ground tie a rope around the compressor and the rope was run through the pulley. The employee on the ground lifted the compressor up the side of the building by pulling on the rope. The compressor became hung on the gutter of the building. As the victim on the roof leaned out over the edge of the roof to maneuver the compressor off the gutter, the rope holding the pulley on the I-beam broke and the compressor and pulley fell to the ground, pulling the victim over the edge of the roof. The victim was transported to the hospital where he died seven days later.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

Citation 1

T.C.A. 50-3-105(1)	The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that the employer did not ensure that the proper rigging equipment was used to anchor the block pulley to the I-beam.
Item 2a 1910.23(c)(1)	Open sided floors or platforms 4 feet or more above the adjacent floor or ground level were not guarded by standard railings (or equivalent fall protection used) on all open sides.
Item 2b 1910.132(d)(1)(i)	The employer did not select, and have each affected employee use, the type of PPE that would protect the affected employee from the hazards identified in the hazard assessment.
Item 3 1910.135(a)(1)	The employer did not ensure that each affected employee wear a protective helmet when working in areas where there is a potential for injury to the head from falling objects.

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The victim fell from the area indicated by the red arrow



I-beam where the block and pulley was attached